

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FBIE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6112

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ZURICH

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: BGEN PFOR GH

SUB: JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH

RF: (A) ACCRA 1084, 2/26/74 (NOTAL) (B) ACCRA 7030, 12/18/74(NOTAL)

(C) ACCRA 7031 12/18/74 (NOTAL) (D) ACCRA 203

(E) ACCRA 0301

1. JAN 14 ROBERT BRANDON, BEN BYNUM, SAMUEL J. CANALE, AND JAMES E.P. WOODRUFF VISITED EMBASSY WITHOUT APPOINTMENT AND SAW E/C CHIEF. SEE REFTELS A ANC C ON BRANDON AND CANALE; LATTER PRESENTED CARDS AS PRESIDENT OF AIR SUPPORT INDUSTRIES, INC., GLASSBORO, J.J. 08028 (TELS (215) 923-4327 AND (609) 881-2700) AND OF COMMERCIAL AUTO BODY WORKS, INC. ("TRUCK BODIES, EQUIPMENT, REPAIRS"), 8950 STATE ROAD, PHILADELPHIS 19136 (TEL 215) 331-5400). BYNUM RELUCTANTLY CAME UP WITH A CARD "BEN BYNUM'S CADILLAC CLUB," 3736 GERMANTOWN AVE., PHILADELPHIA 19140 (TEL BA 6-4820). WOODRUFF HAS CARD WITH "FATHER" AND NAME, "DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL SERVICES, BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INC." (REFTEL A) 424-26 ONE DECKER SQUARE, BALA-CYNWYD, PA. 19004 (TEL (215) .9 7-1682; TELEX BAID-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BCYN 83-1360).

2. WOODRUFF WORE CLERICAL COOLAR, WAS ADDRESSED BY COLLEAGUES AS "FATHER" AND INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS "DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL SERVICES OF OMAN-GHANA TRUST HOLDINGS LTD." BYNUM CLAIMED HE HAD "NO PARTICULAR COMPANY BUT MANY INTERESTS," AND HE AND CANALE REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS WEALTHY. THE THREE (AND POSSIBLY FOUR) OF THEM CLAIM TO HAVE SET UP A DOMESTIC INTERNATIONAL SALES CORPORATION (DISC) RECENTLY INCORPORATED IN PENNSYLVANIA, CANBRA INTERNATIONAL, WHICH IS TO BE THE SOLE VEHICLE FOR THEIR DEALINGS WITH OMAN-GHANA TRUST HOLDINGS (CANBRA BEING A COMBINATION OF CANALE'S AND BRANDON'S NAMES).

3. THE FOUR REPORTED THAT THEY HAD BEEN IN THE COUNTRY A WEEK, MUCH OF IT IN PRIMITIVE PARTS OF THE WESTERN REGION EXAMINING THE NEEDS FOR EQUIPMENT, ETC. THEY HAD SEEN THE "VERY BUSY" BLAY-MIEZAH "ONLY FOR A TOTAL OF SIX HOURS OR SO./

4. ASIDE FROM WANTING TO SEE THE AMBASSADOR (THEY DID NOT), THE ONLY APPARENT REASON FOR THEIR VISIT WAS TO "INFORM" THE EMBASSY OF THEIR PRESENCE AND TO INQUIRE WHAT THE EMBASSY CURRENTLY THOUGHT OF BLAY-MIEZAH (ANSWER WAS NON-COMMITAL, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT HE HAD INDICTMENT TO ANSWER IN THE U.S.). ALL FOUR GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY CONTINUED TO HAVE FULL FAITH IN BLAY-MIEZAH, ALTHOUGH FACT THAT AT LEAST CANALE AND PERHAPS OTHERS MAY BE SOLISITORSO OF HIS GIVES ONE PAUSE.

5. BRANDON RESPONDED TO QUESTION ABOUT EARLIER REPORT HE HAD GIVEN EMBASSY (REFTEL B-TO EFFECT THAT BLAY-MIEZAH PREPARING TO RETURN TO U.S. TO FACE CHARGES) BY STATING BLAY-MIEZAH'S RETURN DELAYED DUE TO FACT HE "VERY BUSY", BUT MIGHT BE WITHIN 30 DAYS.

6. THE FOUR VISITORS EVIDENTLY EXPECT TO RETURN SOON AND SEVERAL TIMES TO GHANA SINCE THEY ARE TRYING TO HAVE THEIR SINGLE-ENTRY GHANAIA N VISAS CHANGED TO MULTIPLE -ENTRY. BLACK

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